


The Modesto Bee



New jail's programs aim to change inmates' lives

BY KEN CARLSON
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Stanislaus County leaders said a new minimum security jail facility, now complete at the Public Safety Center, is designed for programs to change the criminal patterns of inmates and ensure fewer come back

after their release. Public tours of what's called the REACT center held this week touted the classrooms in each housing unit, a family reunification room and sitting areas with multimedia screens. So far, the array of programs to assist inmates with addiction, behavioral issues and the vocational skills they'll need to live

in the community after release is still being developed, staff members said. Authorities first need to determine which inmates will occupy the 288-bed facility, Sgt. Pedro Beltran said. A schedule calls for moving inmates in May into the addition, which caps a massive expansion and modernization of the Public Safety Center on

Hackett Road. Beltran and Lt. Frank Martinez, commander of the programs unit, said they will talk with other counties such as Alameda about their rehab services and what might be effective. The success or failure of the rehab programs will have a bearing on how safe Stanislaus

County residents feel in neighborhoods and whether the county gets a handle on drug addiction that's linked to crime and family dysfunction. Statewide public safety realignment starting in 2011 made lower-level offenders the responsibility of local jurisdictions and provided funds for counties to expand jails and reduce recidivism. Tuolumne County recently began construction on a facility similar to REACT. Beltran said hundreds of inmates are in programs in the medium and maximum security units next door, but the REACT

SEE JAIL, 2A

Bipartisan immigration deal may face veto by Trump

BY ED O'KEEFE, DAVID NAKAMURA AND MIKE DEBONIS
Washington Post

A bipartisan group of senators reached a deal on immigration Wednesday as President Donald Trump attempted to pre-emptively undercut the proposal by delivering an ultimatum: Pass my plan or risk a veto. The self-dubbed "Common Sense Caucus" of bipartisan senators late Wednesday circulated legislation that would fulfill Trump's calls to grant legal status to 1.8 million immigrants, and would authorize \$25 billion for southern border security construction projects over the next decade – not immediately, as Trump wants. The bill also would curb family-based immigration programs, but not to the extent Trump is seeking and does not end a diversity visa lottery program that he wants eliminated. Word of an agreement came as formal debate on immigration policy has mostly sputtered this week – a

SEE IMMIGRATION, 5A



AL DIAZ [adiaz@miamiherald.com](#)

Jorge Zapata, 16, a sophomore, hugs his mother, Lavinia Zapata, after a shooting Wednesday killed at least 17 at a high school Parkland, Fla.

17 killed in Florida high school shooting; suspect is ex-student

BY TERRY SPENCER AND KELLI KENNEDY
Associated Press

PARKLAND, FLA. A gunman opened fire with a semiautomatic rifle at a Florida high school Wednesday, killing at least 17 people and sending scores of students fleeing into the streets in the nation's deadliest school shooting since a gunman attacked an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut. The suspect was identified as Nikolas Cruz, a 19-year-old former student at the school. The shooter, who was equipped with a gas mask and smoke grenades, set off a fire alarm to draw students out of classrooms shortly before the day ended at one of the state's largest schools, officials said. He was armed with a semi-automatic AR-15 rifle, law enforcement officers said.



WILFREDO LEE AP

Anxious family members wait for news about students after Wednesday's high school shooting in Parkland, Fla.

Authorities offered no immediate details on Cruz or any possible motive, except to say that he had been expelled for disciplinary reasons from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High

School, which has about 3,000 students. Frantic parents rushed to the school to find SWAT team members and ambulances surrounding the huge campus. Live

television footage showed emergency workers who appeared to be treating the wounded on sidewalks. "It is a horrific situation," said Robert Runcie, superintendent of the school district in Parkland, about an hour's drive north of Miami. "It is a horrible day for us." Cruz was taken into custody without a fight about an hour later in a residential neighborhood about a mile away. He had multiple magazines of ammunition, authorities said. "It's catastrophic. There really are no words," Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel told reporters. The attacker used the fire alarm "so the kids would come pouring out of the classrooms into the hall," Sen. Bill Nelson told CNN. "And there the carnage began," said Nelson, who said he was briefed by the FBI. The Florida Democrat said he did not know if the gunman used the smoke grenades, but he assumed that's why he had a gas mask on. Most of the fatalities were inside the building, though

SEE MASS SHOOTING, 4A



ON NBC TV TONIGHT

Men's figure skating; women's snowboard cross; men's skeleton; women's freestyle skiing

MEDAL COUNT				
Country	G	S	B	Tot
Germany	7	2	3	12
Netherlands	5	4	2	11
Norway	3	5	3	11
Canada	3	4	3	10
United States	4	1	2	7

As of 4 p.m. Wednesday

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